

I recently received a letter from Kit Bigelow, the Director of External Affairs from the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United States. Hundreds of thousands of Bahai's were the target of persecution in their largest community in the world: Iran.

Working with my colleague Tom Lantos (D-CA), I authored House Concurrent Resolution 415, legislation that condemns the Government of Iran for persecuting Baha'is, and calls for the emancipation of all religious minorities in Iran. Months of hard work gaining support for this measure paid off. On September 19, 2006, the House of Representatives passed H.Con.Res 415 by a vote of 393 to 2.

I am pleased to report that this resolution succeeded in raising the international profile of the Baha'is' plight in Iran. According to the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is, H.Con.Res 415 played a critical role in temporarily moderating the Iranian authorities' actions towards the Baha'i community. We are in no illusion about the nature of Iran's government but will continue to call attention to the safety of Bah'is in Iran.

To see a copy of the letter, [click here](#) .